

# Pontesbury Hedgehog Survey – May 2021

**Shropshire**  
Wildlife Trust

## Summary of Findings



**25 households in the village took part in the survey.**

Approx. 175 questionnaires were issued on 5th April, and 25 in total were received back.

**16% of households who responded had seen a live hedgehog or had seen evidence of hedgehogs visiting their gardens. 4% of households had seen a deceased or roadkill hedgehog.**

4 households in the area had seen live hedgehogs mostly in their gardens. Whilst just 1 household had seen a deceased hedgehog. The sightings both live and deceased were reported in Hinton, station road, wray drive and on the main road. This shows that populations don't appear to be focused on one or two roads in particular so far, but are fairly scattered with sightings.

**Sightings were not from one or two roads in particular.**

With only 4 sightings to work with, it is hard to fully analyse a population in the area, but the scattered sightings do indicate a nice scattered population in the area. This can be good, showing high levels of connectivity, or could show a fragmented population, meaning there are barriers between movement. This could indicate that connectivity needs to be focused on here, to make sure hedgehogs can move freely.

**Most of the hedgehog sightings locations show to have good levels of connectivity and plenty of wild areas. The areas lacking, are active hedgehog encouragements such as supplementary food and housing.**

Identifying trends in results, shows that wild areas and habitats in Pontesbury gardens are abundant and great examples of attractive nest and food sites for hedgehogs. However, there is a considerable lack of active hedgehog encouragements such as putting out supplementary food/water and housing. This suggests that the key to increasing sightings and improving the local population is by potentially encouraging them with the above in more gardens.

**40% of households said they had taken some steps to support hedgehogs and other wildlife in their gardens.**

14 households had left a wild area, 8 households had left fresh water out, and 6 also have highway holes/connectivity. Only 1 household puts out hedgehog food, and a further 1 household have or are getting a hedgehog house. 48% of households in the village said that they do not use pesticides in their garden, and those that do try to make it seasonal, occasional, or strictly to specific areas.

